

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a therapeutic agent for cartilaginous diseases, an accelerator for chondrocyte proliferation and an accelerator for proteoglycan production comprising HGF (hepatocyte growth factor) as an active component, and a treatment method for cartilaginous diseases of human or mammals comprising administering an effective amount of HGF. The active component HGF has an effect to promote the proliferation of chondrocytes and to promote the production of proteoglycan. Therefore, the therapeutic agent and accelerator of the present invention are useful for the prevention and treatment of various disorders caused by cartilaginous diseases.